

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Dungeness

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Wildlife Checklist



Home for Wildlife

Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge was set aside by executive order in 1915 as a refuge, preserve, and breeding ground for native birds. Located in the northwest corner of Washington on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, approximately 60 miles northwest of Seattle, it offers a diversified habitat of sand beaches, protected bay waters, seagrass beds, mudflats, and forested and grass uplands.

Good wildlife viewing opportunities occur throughout the year on the Refuge. In winter, the area is important to sea ducks and other waterfowl who feed and find storm shelter in the protected waters of Dungeness Bay. Dungeness Bay remains an important migration stop and wintering ground for black brant geese. Many shorebird species also feed on the shorelines and mudflats during the spring and fall migrations with a few species overwintering on the Refuge. Bald eagles and other raptors are commonly seen year round on the Refuge.

*Black brant and
American wigeon*
USFWS Photo

About this Checklist

Summer brings nesting songbirds to the forested and grass uplands and on to the spits. Often visitors see harbor seals swimming in the marine waters and hauling out on shore to rest and nurse their pups within the protection of the Refuge boundaries. Visitors have also spotted other marine mammals, such orca and minke whales, in the Refuge waters.

The following fish and wildlife species list includes 244 species of birds, 55 species of mammals, 10 species of reptiles and amphibians, and 23 species of fish that are found or could be found on the Refuge. Since most birds are migratory, their seasonal occurrence and abundance, as well as associated habitats are coded. The list was prepared with the assistance of Bob Boekelheide, Rod Norvell and other knowledgeable birders. If you see something rare or unusual, please share the information with the Refuge biologist. We will periodically update this checklist with new information and we welcome your wildlife sightings on the Refuge.

Bird species are listed according to the seventh edition (1998) American Ornithologists' Union checklist and the 42nd supplement to that checklist (July 2000). Symbols used in this list are defined as follows:



Seasons

- Sp - Spring (March-May)
- S - Summer (June-July)
- F - Fall (August-November)
- W - Winter (December-February)

Seasonal Abundance

- a - abundant - occurring in large numbers in proper habitat
- c - common - likely to be seen or heard in proper habitat
- u - uncommon - present, but not certain to be seen
- o - occasional - present only a few times a season, but may be more common in habitat adjacent to the Refuge
- r - rare - may be present but not every year
- i - irruptive - occurs in large numbers some years, but is absent in others
- h - hypothetical - within normal range, but not recently documented
- x - accidental - outside of normal range

A symbol (*) precedes species known to nest or breed on the Refuge. Threatened or endangered species are preceded by (✓) symbol.

Habitat

The “H” column lists the habitat types that are found on the Refuge in which the listed bird species can be found. The habitat codes are as follows:

- f - mixed coniferous/deciduous forest
- g - grassland
- h - hedges/shrubs
- m - marsh/pond
- s - sand spit/strand
- t - tideflats/open mudflats
- b - bay marine
- o - open marine

Wildlife Watching Tips

Viewing marine birds can be challenging. At first glance the waters appear empty, but slowly scan the area with binoculars or a scope for a closer look.

Some areas are closed to public entry to provide wildlife sanctuary. Use the dirtwood as a blind to view wildlife from outside these closed areas.

Walk quietly in designated areas, being aware of sounds. Teach children quiet observation. Other wildlife watchers will appreciate your consideration.

Look for animal signs. Tracks, scat, feathers, and nests left behind often tell interesting stories.

Don't share your food. Your lunch could disrupt wild digestive systems.

Leave all young animals alone. A parent is probably close by waiting for you to leave.



Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W	Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Loons						American Wigeon	tbm	c	o	a	a
Red-throated Loon	ob	u		u	c	*Mallard	tbm	c	o	a	a
Pacific Loon	ob	c	o	c	c	Blue-winged Teal	m	r	r	r	
Common Loon	ob	c	u	c	c	Cinnamon Teal	mt	r	r	r	
Yellow-billed Loon	ob	r		r	r	Northern Shoveler	tm	u	o	u	u
Grebes						Northern Pintail	tbm	c	o	a	a
Pied-billed Grebe	mb	o	o	o	o	Green-winged Teal	tm	c	o	c	c
Horned Grebe	ob	c	r	c	c	Canvasback	bm	r		r	r
Red-necked Grebe	ob	c	r	c	c	Redhead	bm	r		r	r
Eared Grebe	ob	o		o	o	Ring-necked Duck	bm	o	o	o	o
Western Grebe	ob	u		u	u	Greater Scaup	b	u	o	u	c
Fulmars, Petrels and Shearwaters						Lesser Scaup	bm	o		o	o
Northern Fulmar	o	r		r	r	Harlequin Duck	bto	c	u	c	c
Sooty Shearwater	o		r	r		Surf Scoter	bo	c	u	c	a
Short-tailed Shearwater	o			r		White-winged Scoter	bo	c	u	c	a
Storm-Petrels						Black Scoter	ob	u		u	u
Fork-tailed Storm-petrel	o	r		r	r	Long-tailed Duck	ob	u		u	c
Leach's Storm-petrel	o			r	r	Bufflehead	bom	c	r	c	c
Pelicans						Common Goldeneye	bom	c	r	u	c
✓Brown Pelican	ob		o	o		Barrow's Goldeneye	bom	o		o	o
Cormorants						Hooded Merganser	bm	o	o	o	o
Brandt's Cormorant	ob	r	r	r	u	Common Merganser	bm	o	o	u	o
*Double-crested Cormorant	bo	c	c	c	c	Red-breasted Merganser	bot	c	o	c	c
Pelagic Cormorant	bo	c	u	c	c	Ruddy Duck	bm	r		r	o
Bitterns, Herons and Egrets						Osprey, Kites, Hawks and Eagles					
American Bittern	m	o	o	o	o	Osprey	bf	u	u	o	r
Great Blue Heron	tms	c	c	c	c	✓Bald Eagle	sbtf	c	c	c	c
Green Heron	m		r			*Northern Harrier	gs	c	c	c	c
New World Vultures						Sharp-shinned Hawk	f	u	o	u	u
Turkey Vulture	st	u	u	u	r	*Cooper's Hawk	f	u	u	u	u
Swans, Geese and Ducks						Northern Goshawk	f	r		r	r
Greater White-fronted Goose	m	o		o	r	*Red-tailed Hawk	fg	u	u	u	u
Snow Goose	bgm	r		r	r	Rough-legged Hawk	g				r
*Canada Goose	btgs	c	c	c	c	Golden Eagle	fg	r		r	r
Brant	bt	a	r	c	a	Falcons and Caracaras					
Mute Swan	b	x	x	x	x	American Kestrel	gs	o		r	o
Trumpeter Swan	gm	o		o	o	Merlin	tsf	o	r	o	u
Tundra Swan	gm	r		r	r	Gyrfalcon	sb			r	o
Wood Duck	mf	o	o	o	o	Peregrine Falcon	stf	u	o	u	u
Gadwall	mtb	o	o	o	u	Prairie Falcon	sg			r	r
Eurasian Wigeon	tbm	u		u	u	Gallinaceous Birds					
						Ring-necked Pheasant	gh	o	o	u	u
						*California Quail	gfh	c	c	c	c
						Rails					
						Virginia Rail	m	o	o	o	o
						Sora	m	o	o	o	r
						American Coot	mb	o	o	o	o

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W	Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Plovers						Herring Gull	stbo	r		r	o
Black-bellied Plover	ts	c	u	a	a	Thayer's Gull	stbo	o		o	u
American Golden-Plover	ts			o		Western Gull	stbo	u	o	u	u
Pacific Golden-Plover	ts			o		*Glaucous-winged Gull	stbo	a	a	a	c
✓Snowy Plover	s	r	r			Glaucous Gull	st	r		r	o
Semipalmated Plover	st	u	u	c	r	Glaucous-winged/Western Gull	stbo	a	c	a	a
*Killdeer	st	c	c	c	u	Black-legged Kittiwake	os			r	r
						Caspian Tern	bos	u	c	c	
Oystercatchers						Elegant Tern	bos			r	
*Black Oystercatcher	s	c	c	c	u	Common Tern	bos	o	u	u	
						Arctic Tern	bos			r	
Sandpipers and Phalaropes						Forster's Tern	bos			r	
Greater Yellowlegs	tm	u	r	u	r						
Lesser Yellowlegs	tm	o		o		Auks and Puffins					
Solitary Sandpiper	ms	r		r		Common Murre	o	o	u	u	u
Willet	st			r	r	*Pigeon Guillemot	o	c	c	c	c
Wandering Tattler	s	r		r		✓Marbled Murrelet	o	u	u	u	o
Spotted Sandpiper	st	o	o	o	r	Ancient Murrelet	o		r	o	o
Whimbrel	ts	c	u	c	r	Cassin's Auklet	o	r	r	r	r
Long-billed Curlew	m	r				Rhinoceros Auklet	o	u	c	c	o
Bar-tailed Godwit	t	r	r			Tufted Puffin	o	o	u		
Marbled Godwit	t	o	r	o	o						
Ruddy Turnstone	st	u	u	c	r	Pigeons and Doves					
Black Turnstone	st	u	u	c	u	Rock Dove	gf	o	o	o	o
Surfbird	st	o		o	u	Band-tailed Pigeon	f	o	o	o	o
Red Knot	t	o		o		*Mourning Dove	fg	u	u	u	u
Sanderling	st	c	u	c	c						
Semipalmated Sandpiper	mt	r		r		Barn Owls					
Western Sandpiper	ts	c	u	c	o	Barn Owl	g	o	o	o	o
Least Sandpiper	ts	u	u	c	o						
Baird's Sandpiper	ts	r		o		Typical Owls					
Pectoral Sandpiper	mt	r		o		Western Screech-Owl	f	o	o	o	o
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	mt			r		Great Horned Owl	sfg	o	o	o	o
Rock Sandpiper	s			r	r	Snowy Owl	sm	i		i	i
Dunlin	tsm	c	r	c	a	Northern Pygmy-Owl	f	r		r	r
Stilt Sandpiper	m			r		Barred Owl	f	o	r	o	o
Ruff	m			r		*Short-eared Owl	sg	u	u	u	u
Short-billed Dowitcher	tms	u	u	u		Northern Saw-whet Owl	f	o	r	o	o
Long-billed Dowitcher	tms	u	o	u	r						
Common Snipe	m	o		o	o	Nightjars					
Wilson's Phalarope	o	r		r		Common Nighthawk	mfg	o	o	o	
Red-necked Phalarope	o	o		o							
Red Phalarope	o	r		r	r	Swifts					
						Black Swift	mfb	o	o	o	
Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls and Terns						*Vaux's Swift	mfb	u	u	u	
Parasitic Jaeger	ob	r		o							
Bonaparte's Gull	tbso	u	o	u	u	Hummingbirds					
Heermann's Gull	sobt		a	c	r	*Rufous Hummingbird	f	c	c	u	
Mew Gull	stbo	c	o	c	c						
Ring-billed Gull	stbo	o	o	u	u	Kingfishers					
California Gull	stbo	o	c	c	u	*Belted Kingfisher	btms	c	c	u	u

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W	Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Woodpeckers						Bushtits					
Red-breasted Sapsucker	f	o	o	o	o	*Bushtit	f	u	u	u	u
*Downy Woodpecker	f	c	c	u	u						
*Hairy Woodpecker	f	u	u	o	o	Creepers					
*Northern Flicker	fg	u	o	u	u	*Brown Creeper	f	u	u	u	u
Pileated Woodpecker	f	o	r	r	r						
Tyrant Flycatchers						Wrens					
*Olive-sided Flycatcher	f	u	u	u		*Bewick's Wren	fh	u	u	u	u
Western Wood-Pewee	f	o	o	o		House Wren	f	o	o		
Willow Flycatcher	f	o	o	o		*Winter Wren	f	c	c	c	c
Hammond's Flycatcher	f	o	r	o		*Marsh Wren	m	o	o	o	o
*Pacific-slope Flycatcher	f	c	c	u							
Tropical Kingbird	g			x		Kinglets					
Western Kingbird	g	r				*Golden-crowned Kinglet	fh	c	c	c	c
						Ruby-crowned Kinglet	fh	u	r	u	c
Shrikes						Thrushes					
Northern Shrike	g	r		o	o	Western Bluebird	g	r	r	r	
Vireos						Mountain Bluebird	g				r
*Cassin's Vireo	f	u	u	u		Townsend's Solitaire	f	o	r	o	r
*Hutton's Vireo	f	u	u	u	u	*Swainson's Thrush	f	u	u	o	
Warbling Vireo	f	u	o	u		Hermit Thrush	fh	o	r	o	r
Red-eyed Vireo	f	o	o			*American Robin	fgm	c	c	c	u
						*Varied Thrush	f	u	u	u	u
Crows, Jays and Magpies						Starlings					
*Steller's Jay	f	u	u	u	u	European Starling	gmts	u	u	u	c
American Crow	tf	u	u	u	u						
Northwestern Crow	t	u	u	u	u	Wagtails and Pipits					
*Common Raven	f	c	c	c	u	American Pipit	sgt	o		u	r
Larks						Waxwings					
Sky Lark	sg	x			x	Bohemian Waxwing	f			r	
Horned Lark	s	r	h	h		Cedar Waxwing	f	u	u	u	r
Swallows						Wood Warblers					
Purple Martin	bmtg	r	r			*Orange-crowned Warbler	f	c	c	c	r
*Tree Swallow	bmtgf	c	c	c	r	Nashville Warbler	f	r		r	
*Violet-green Swallow	bsmgf	c	c	c		*Yellow Warbler	f	u	u	u	
*Northern Rough-winged Swallow		bsmg	c	c	c	*Yellow-rumped Warbler	f	u	u	u	o
*Cliff Swallow	bsmg		c	c	c	Black-throated Gray Warbler	f	o	o	o	
*Barn Swallow	bsmg		c	c	c	*Townsend's Warbler	f	u	u	u	r
Titmice and Chickadees						MacGillivray's Warbler	f	o	o	o	
Black-capped Chickadee	f	u	u	u	u	*Common Yellowthroat	hmg	u	u	o	
Mountain Chickadee	f				x	*Wilson's Warbler	f	c	c	u	
*Chestnut-backed Chickadee	f	c	c	c	c						
Nuthatches						Tanagers					
*Red-breasted Nuthatch	f	c	c	c	c	Western Tanager	f	u	u	o	

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Sparrows and Towhees					
*Spotted Towhee	f	c	c	c	c
Chipping Sparrow	f	o	o	o	
Vesper Sparrow	gs	h	h	r	r
*Savannah Sparrow	gs	c	c	c	
*Fox Sparrow	fh	c	u	c	c
*Song Sparrow	sgfh	c	c	c	c
Lincoln's Sparrow	g	o	r	o	r
*White-crowned Sparrow	hg	c	c	u	o
Golden-crowned Sparrow	hg	u	o	u	u
*Dark-eyed Junco	f	c	c	c	c
Lapland Longspur	sg		r	r	r
Snow Bunting	sg		r	r	r
Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Allies					
*Black-headed Grosbeak	f	u	u	u	
Blackbirds and Orioles					
Red-winged Blackbird	mgh	o	o	o	o
Western Meadowlark	gh	o	o	o	o
*Brewer's Blackbird	gm	u	u	o	o
*Brown-headed Cowbird	fg	u	u	o	r
Bullock's Oriole	fg	o	o	r	
Finches					
Purple Finch	fgh	o	o	o	r
House Finch	g	o	o	o	o
Red Crossbill	f	i	i	i	i
White-winged Crossbill	f				r
Common Redpoll	hg			i	i
Hoary Redpoll	hg			i	i
*Pine Siskin	f	c	c	c	c
*American Goldfinch	gh	c	c	u	r
*Evening Grosbeak	f	i	i	i	
Old World Sparrows					
House Sparrow	g	o	o	o	o

Belted kingfisher
USFWS Photo



**Terrestrial
Mammals**

The following lists many terrestrial mammals, reptiles, and amphibians as hypothetical because they have not been verified in recent wildlife surveys. Many mammals are difficult to observe due to their nocturnal or secretive behavior. Although they may not be seen, watch for evidence of their presence, such as fresh tracks or scat or a burrow hole.

Common Name

Abundance

- Virginia Opossum
- *Bendire’s Shrew
- Trowbridge’s Shrew
- Vagrant Shrew
- Montane Shrew
- Shrew-mole
- Townsend’s Mole
- Coast Mole
- Little Brown Myotis
- Yuma Myotis
- Long-eared Myotis
- Long-legged Myotis
- California Myotis
- Silver-haired Bat
- Big Brown Bat
- Hoary Bat
- Townsend’s Big-eared Bat
- Black Bear
- Raccoon
- *Short-tailed Weasel (Ermine)
- *Long-tailed Weasel
- Mink
- River Otter
- Spotted Skunk
- *Striped Skunk
- Coyote
- *Red Fox
- Mountain Lion
- Bobcat
- Aplodontia (Mountain Beaver)
- Townsend’s Chipmunk
- *Douglas’ Squirrel (Chickaree)
- *Northern Flying Squirrel
- *Deer Mouse
- *Gapper Red-backed Vole
- Townsend’s Vole
- Long-tailed Vole
- *Creeping Vole

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Common Name

Abundance

- Norway Rat
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- Mouse
- Pacific Jumping Mouse
- *Muskrat
- Snowshoe Hare
- Columbian Black-tailed Deer

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*Columbian
Black-tailed deer*
USFWS Photo

Marine Mammals

Visitors often observe marine mammals in the marine waters around the spit. Only the harbor and elephant seals haul out (come out of the water) on the shoreline. Please report to Refuge staff any individual (single) seal or any other marine mammals observed on land.

Common Name	Abundance
✓Northern (Steller) Sea Lion	o
California Sea Lion	o
Northern Fur Seal	r
*Pacific Harbor Seal	a
Northern Elephant Seal	o
Orca (KillerWhale)	o
Harbor Porpoise	o
Dall's Porpoise	o
Gray Whale	o
Minke Whale	o
Sea Otter	r

Anadromous Fish, Shellfish and others

The following is a selected sample of fish and shellfish that visitors might see in Dungeness Bay. Included are anadromous fish, that is a term used for fish that hatch in fresh water, migrate to sea, and return to fresh water to spawn.

✓Chinook (king) Salmon	Horse Clam
Coho (Silver) Salmon	Geoduck
Pink Salmon	Softshell Clam
✓Chum Salmon	Pacific Oyster (commercial)
Sockeye Salmon	Mussel
Steelhead	Dungeness Crab
Cutthroat	Red Rock Crab
✓Bull Trout	Oregon (Hairy) Shore Crab
Native Littleneck Clam	Horse Shore Crab
Manila Littleneck Clam	Hermit Shore Crab
Cockle	Giant Pacific Octopus
Butter Clam	



Harbor seals
© John & Karen Hollingsworth

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Refuge Information
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